

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This is the last chapter of the present study. It consists of two parts. The first part presents the conclusion based on the findings and discussions in the previous chapter. The second part puts forward the suggestions for further studies.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

The present study concerns with the representation of culture in the picture book entitled *It's Amma's Birthday Tomorrow*. By using Hall's (1997) theory of cultural representation and Joyce and Gaudin's (2011) multimodal approach in the picture book, it is discovered that the culture that is represented in the picture book is Sri Lankan culture. It is represented through the narrative and grammar of design. In narrative, the representation of Sri Lankan culture can be seen from the character, setting and action. Additionally, in relation to grammar of design, the representation of Sri Lankan culture is also revealed through the book details as well as the physical appearances of the main character which belongs to the characteristic of people in Sri Lanka.

In terms of narrative, the culture is represented through the character particularly the non-human characters who act as the main character's friends such as firefly, rabbit, bird and spider. In this context, firefly represents the agricultural society in Sri Lanka, rabbit is associated with the prosperity of the people in Sri Lanka, bird indicates the loyalty as believed by the people in Sri Lanka and spider represents the characteristic of Nikini who is never gives up getting what she wants in her life which fits with the characteristic of Sri Lankan children in the current cartoon film entitled *Little Krishna*. Hence, from those non-human characters, it can be said that the author puts the intentional meaning to represent the culture. Furthermore, from the setting of the picture book, it represents the geographical setting in a country which mostly depicts the forest. In addition, the action that is chosen by the main character that chooses *sari* as the

precious gift for her mother's birthday as an intention of the author to represent one culture.

Besides, the grammar of design contributes in representing the culture through the book details and the physical appearances of the main character. In book details, the representation of culture can be seen from the title of the picture book from the word *Amma* that is taken from *Sinhales* language which means mother because *Sinhales* is the language of Sri Lanka. Further, the physical appearances of the main character is depicted as a little girl who is always barefoot in the story, using bracelet on her hand and the style of her hair that reflect the characteristic of people in one country.

From all the findings above, it is suggested that the picture book entitled *It's Amma's Birthday Tomorrow* represents a culture. The culture which is represented in the picture book is Sri Lankan culture. The author of the picture book intentionally introduces her culture into her work. Furthermore, this is the strategy that attempts to make Sri Lankan picture book is visible to the consumers as well as to fulfill a demand for learning further about traditional Sri Lankan lives and values.

## **5.2 Suggestions**

Since this study only discusses the representation of Sri Lankan culture in the picture book, it will be more challenging if the further study investigates the representation of the comparison between two cultures in the picture books. A study of the culture in children's literature would help us understand the ways in which a picture book may be judged to be an acceptable representation of the culture or culture it represents. So, it can make the further researcher learns and understands many cultures around the world that underlie in the picture books. Furthermore, by enlarging to learn so many cultures, it is expected that the further study will be more comprehensive and representative.